



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 10/032,591

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Examiner: Paul Callahan

Inventor: Gerald R. Black

Title: Data Security System

AMENDATORY RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This is a response to the Office Action of October 5, 2005.

IN THE CLAIMS

For purposes of convenience, Claims 18 through 20 are listed below:

18 (Previously Presented). A pen-based computing device for accessing secure data, the pen-based computing device having a casing, the pen-based computing device including at least one fingerprint sensor for capturing a user thumbprint image of a user hand, the fingerprint sensor being positioned at a fingerprint sensor site in the casing of the pen-based computing device;

whereby placement of the fingerprint sensor site in the casing of the pen-based computing device enables an incidental capture of the thumbprint image of the user hand for purposes of identity authentication prior to each request to access the secure data; and

whereby placement of the fingerprint sensing site in the casing of the pen-based computing device enables capture of the thumbprint image of the user hand holding the pen-based computing device; and